University of Wisconsin-Madison, ALA Conference 2005, Round Robin Report

Reorganization of Acquisitions Department: To streamline procedures and processes associated with the order and receipt of new materials, especially electronic resources, organizational changes are being made within the Acquisitions Department. Primary changes include the merging of the ordering, receiving and invoice functions, formerly split between two units, into an Order/Receipt Unit, and the creation of a Licensed Electronic Resources Unit. Staff in the latter unit will be responsible for the order, review and approval of licenses, activation, and troubleshooting of e-resources.

Library Website Redesign: An effort to revamp the library's website has been underway since December. Focus has been on updating the design and presentation of the library's homepage and the ease of accessing information linking from this address. Card-sorts and focus groups have recently been conducted with the plan of completing phase one of the redesign by July 18th.

Express Article Delivery Service for Cancelled Journal Titles: To enhance the productivity of campus researchers user requests for articles in 500 Elsevier and Wiley canceled journals are now flagged for special rush treatment by library staff. Articles are bought online from publishers' websites (no charge back to the requester) rather than using traditional interloan channels. The primary intent is to provide rapid article delivery for high-cost, low-demand journals. With average turnaround time for this service a half-day user feedback has been exceptionally positive. In the first five months of the pilot over 1,600 article requests have been filled.   Decisions on whether to reinstate specific journals will be driven by cost analysis and user demand.

Future Maintenance of E-journal records in OPAC: The implementation of the Ex Libris' SFX linking software last fall provides us with the capability to generate a separate e-journal list more comprehensive and up-to-date than the one locally derived from the Voyager database. Anticipating that the SFX Knowledge Base will eventually replace the current A-Z journal list, a task force has been set up to evaluate and recommend the level of bibliographic access and holdings maintenance that should be continued in our OPAC for purchased or leased electronic journals. The committee expects to complete its work by the end of this calendar year.

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